

BULLETIN

OF THE SOCIETY OF ARTS

DECEMBER 1908

THE SOCIETY OF ARTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

The Society of Arts was established as a department of the Institute by President Rogers in 1861.

It is especially devoted to the general dissemination of scientific knowledge and it aims to awaken and maintain an interest in the recent advances and practical applications of the sciences.

Any person interested in the aims of the Society is eligible to membership.

The annual dues are \$3.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Professor W. S. LELAND, Secretary, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston

ANNOUNCEMENT

Season 1908-09.

THE character of the lecture course of the Society of Arts for the season of 1908-09 is such that it should appeal to every one. The subjects will be treated so far as may be in a non-technical manner. The matters to be discussed are of timely importance, and the speakers are eminent in their professions. The Society desires to benefit the greatest number possible, and to this end most of the meetings will be held in Huntington Hall, Rogers Building. These lectures form a part of the educational work of the Institute, and are free. Every person for whom the program here presented has interest is cordially invited to attend.

PROGRAM FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

MEETING OF DECEMBER 7th

The water in the Charles River basin has just reached its permanent level, and "The Charles River Basin Improvements" has been selected as a timely topic for this date. Mr. Hiram A. Miller, chief engineer of the Charles River Basin Commission, will describe the engineering problems presented and how they were met, and Mr. William S. Youngman, secretary of the Commission, will tell of the beneficial results of this great undertaking. Both gentlemen are entertaining speakers, and the descriptions will be illustrated by many lantern slides. *Huntington Hall, at 8 o'clock.*

MEETING OF DECEMBER 17th

"Modern Illuminants and Illumination" is the subject for the mid-December lecture, the speaker being Dr. Louis Bell, the distinguished illuminating engineer, of Boston. Dr. Bell will present the most advanced practice in lighting methods and apparatus, covering all conditions of indoor and outdoor service, from a practical and æsthetic standpoint. His address will be freely illustrated by lantern slides and many forms of apparatus. *Huntington Hall, at 8 o'clock.*

MEETING OF JANUARY 13th

The Research Laboratory of Applied Chemistry of the Institute of Technology, under the direction of Dr. W. H. Walker, has been engaged in some far-reaching investigations on the conditions affecting the corrosion of metals. Dr. Walker is collecting data of the greatest importance to the industrial world, and he has selected for his subject "The Corrosion of Iron and

Methods of Preventing It." This presentation, which is based on some recent important developments of the investigation, will undoubtedly have much utilitarian value, and will be of interest to laymen, manufacturers, and engineers. The lecture will be illustrated by experiments. *Huntington Hall, at 8 o'clock.*

MEETING OF JANUARY 28th

One of the most original experts in the electrical profession in America is Dr. Charles P. Steinmetz, who is engaged in conducting research work for the General Electric Company, and who is also at the head of the Electrical Engineering Department at Union University, Schenectady, N.Y. Dr. Steinmetz will talk on "The Future of Electricity," and we may expect a glimpse of absorbing interest at the spectacular changes in human affairs which electricity may bring about in the future. *Huntington Hall, at 8 o'clock.*

COMING EVENTS

Some of the lectures that will come after February 1 are given below. Definite dates will be announced two weeks in advance.

On the anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin there will be a Memorial Meeting in Huntington Hall. The Society will be addressed by eminent scientists, and the present-day aspect of the origin of the species will be discussed.

The development of the gas engine has been so rapid that an estimate of its relation to other prime movers by a recognized authority will be welcome. Professor Charles E. Lucke, at the head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Columbia University, will make this his subject in a non-technical address which will cover the whole field.

Professor Robert S. Woodward, President of the Carnegie Institution, has kindly consented to address the Society on the "Larger Research Problems of the Carnegie Institution."

We are glad to announce that Professor George E. Hale, Director of the Mt. Wilson Solar Observatory of the Carnegie Institution, Pasadena, California, will address the Society, probably some time in April, on "Recent Advances in Astro-Physics."

MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOCIETY OF ARTS

The Society of Arts of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which has been established for forty-seven years, aims to awaken and maintain an interest in the practical advancement of the sciences and to aid in their development. Persons interested in the aims of the Society are eligible for membership. The yearly dues are \$3, and members are entitled to two reserved seats for each lecture. These tickets are transferable.

As the membership of the Society is large, application from members for reserved seats should be received by the secretary two days before the meeting, and no seats will be reserved after 7.55 on the evening of the lecture. THE BULLETIN, containing announcements of coming lectures and reports of those that have been given, will be sent regularly only to members.

The work of the Society has been and always will be of great value to the people and interests of Boston, and it is hoped that its larger activities will attract many to lend their hearty interest and support, and thus widen its influence and increase its efficiency.

EXTRA MEETINGS

From time to time the Society may hold extra meetings to listen to the presentation of subjects, more or less technical, which will have interest for a large proportion of the membership. Notices of these meetings will be sent to members of the Society of Arts only. Two engagements for extra meetings have practically been arranged, both speakers being of international reputation.